



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk (860)441-6640  
Town Manager  
(860)441-6630

## Meeting Minutes

### Town Council

**Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Heather Sherman Bond, Kathryn M. Brown-Tracy, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita M. Schmidt, Paulann H. Sheets, and James L. Streeter**

**Tuesday, August 12, 2008**

**8:00 PM**

**Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1**

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

#### **I. ROLL CALL**

*The meeting was called to order at 10:12 p.m. by Mayor Watson.*

*Also present were Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger, Assistant to the Town Manager Lee Vincent, and Executive Assistant Nicki Bresnayan.*

Members Present: Mayor Watson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Sheets and Councilor Streeter

Members Absent: Councilor Bond, Councilor Brown-Tracy and Councilor Schmidt

#### **II. CONSENT CALENDAR**

##### **a. Administrative Items**

**2008-0202**

##### **Tax Refund**

##### **RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX REFUND**

WHEREAS, the following, for the reason indicated, has overpaid taxes in the amount specified, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the amount be refunded, be it

RESOLVED, that the tax refund indicated below is hereby approved.

Christine Zampiceni - \$7,232.35 - Excess payment

**This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

##### **Passed The Consent Calendar**

**A motion was made by Councilor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

#### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

**2008-0180**

##### **Proposed Charter Revision**

##### **RESOLUTION CONVEYING RECOMMENDED REVISIONS OF THE PROPOSED CHARTER TO THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

RESOLVED, that the Town Council conveys to the Charter Revision Commission the following recommended revisions of the proposed Charter:

##### **Sec. 3.6.1 General**

- Modify the last sentence to read: The Council shall fill such vacancy within forty-five (45) days from the time of its happening.

##### **Sec. 4.1.3 Relationship with Municipal or Administrative Employees.**

- STRIKE the second sentence that reads "Nothing contained herein shall prohibit any RTM member from discussions with administrative department heads as to matters affecting the

department.”

- Add a new first sentence that reads: “The RTM and its members shall deal officially with the Town staff solely through the Town Manager.”

Sec. 5.4.3 Regulation of Agencies, Authorities, Boards, Commissions and Committees

- Modify this section to read: “The Council is responsible for the proper function and operation of all offices, and ABC which it fills by appointment, but not their decisions.”

Sec. 5.4.8 Removal; Term of office; Vacancies.

Modify the first sentence to read: “The Council may remove any appointed officer, or ABC member, for cause by a seven-ninths vote of its members, but only after the charges against such member have been presented to him/her in writing and after he/she shall have been given a reasonable opportunity to be heard in his/her own defense.”

Sec. 5.5.5.5 Referendum

Modify the first sentence to read: “Upon a petition of not less than five (5) percent of the electors of the Town, filed with the Town Clerk not more than thirty (30) days after adoption of the ordinance, asking that the ordinance be submitted to the electors of the Town at its next regular election or special election, it shall be so submitted.”

Sec. 5.7 Relative to Administrative Services.

- Modify the second sentence to read: “The Council and its members shall deal officially with the Town staff solely through the Town Manager.”
- STRIKE the fifth sentence that reads “Nothing contained herein shall prohibit any Council member from discussions with administrative department heads as to matters affecting the department.”

Sec. 9.5.3 Both Council and RTM fail to adopt Budget.

Modify the last sentence to read: “Should the RTM fail to adopt a Budget at the annual budget meeting as specified in Section 9.4 of the Charter, the Budget as transmitted by the Manager in accordance with Section 9.2 of the Charter shall be deemed to be the Budget of the Town, and the Manager shall lay the tax rate in accordance therewith.”

**A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Streeter, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Adjournment was moved by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Sheets, and so voted unanimously. Adjournment was taken at 10:19pm.*

*Attest:*

*Barbara Tarbox  
Clerk of the Council*

*Nicki Bresnyan  
Executive Assistant*